

Agency : FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Title : Creation of a Low Power Radio Service
Subject Category : Radio broadcasting: Low power radio service; creation
Docket ID : MM doc. no. 99-25
CFR Citation : 47 CFR 73
Published : July 07, 2005
Comments Due : August 08, 2005
Phase : PROPOSED RULES

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Regulations.gov #: EREG - 46 Submitted Aug 03, 2005

Author : Mr. Jonathan Price
Organization : WPVM-LP 103.5 FM Asheville, NC
Mailing Address :
Attached Files :

Comment : Hello - My name is Jonathan Price. Since last fall, I have been a volunteer for WPVM-LP 103.5 FM in Asheville, NC. And I am not the only one. Far from it, in fact. Since WPVM has been on the air, there has been an ever increasing number of dedicated Western North Carolina residents who have continued to come out of the woodwork to support WPVM in being the best possible source for progressive news, music, and information. Thus far, the feedback has been positive and the overall reception has been tremendous. There is a genuine sense that the greater Asheville area has been waiting a very long time for a truly progressive voice - a voice that is finally being provided by WPVM. Unfortunately, the current limitations of our signal are preventing us from reaching many individuals who have repeatedly and emphatically expressed a desire to become part of the WPVM listening community. The biggest obstacle is the fact that WPVM is faced with major signal interference from a non-local radio station. Knoxville, TN's WIMZ also broadcasts on the 103.5 frequency, and even though Knoxville is approximately 120 miles away from Asheville, the massive interference from their signal makes WPVM nearly impossible to pick up in many local areas (including downtown Asheville, where our studio is located). This situation deserves another look from the FCC - the distance separation formula that may be perfectly fair and functional in some parts of the country is definitely not fair and functional in the context of the mountainous terrain of Western North Carolina. On that note, if WPVM were permitted to own a translator, we would have much more success in reaching many of the surrounding communities that are eager to listen to WPVM. Also, I am in agreement with the current prevailing wisdom that the use of third adjacent channel spacing is unnecessary and outdated. Please consider eliminating this archaic regulation - the end result will only be a positive change for LPFM stations such as WPVM. Finally, I would like to thank you for your current efforts to promote and strengthen the

presence of LPFM stations on the air. Your careful consideration of these issues will make a world of difference not just for WPVM and the residents of Asheville, but for all present and future LPFM radio stations.

Sincerely,
Jonathan Price